ART & CULTURE

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Juan Martinez Creates Art Meant to be Experienced.

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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GRAND PRIX

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Detroit Grand Prix Photo Highlights

Alliance Catholic CU inicia la construcción de una nueva sucursal en Southwest Detroit

Por Michael D. Gutierrez

Alliance Catholic Credit Union dio el banderazo de inicio para la construcción de una nueva sucursal en Southwest Detroit durante una ceremonia realizada la mañana del viernes 29 de mayo. Al evento asistieron empleados, comerciantes, líderes comunitarios, representantes religiosos y funcionarios públicos en el terreno donde anteriormente se encontraba un banco Comerica, junto a la parroquia St. Gabriel y frente a una sucursal de Chase Bank.

La nueva sucursal estará ubicada sobre Livernois, justo al otro lado de la calle de la oficina que Alliance Catholic opera actualmente en Vernor y Junction. Durante la ceremonia, Dan Davidson, vicepresidente

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L to R: Adam Tonge: ACCU Vice President of Retail Services, Joe Valentic: ACCU Board Chair, Veronica North: ACCU Board of Directors, Gabriela Santiago-Romero: District 6 Councilmember, Sylvia Lozoya: ACCU Vice President of Human Resources and Community Relations, Daniel Davidson: ACCU EVP / Chief Operations Officer, Msgr., Chuck Kosanke: Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit and Most Holy Trinity Parish, Fr. John Robinson: SOLT Family of Parishes, Rob Grech: ACCU President CEO, Rodolfo Pantoja: ACCU Branch Manager, Juana Saavedra: ACCU Business Development Manager

Alliance Catholic CU Breaks Ground on New Southwest Detroit Branch

By Michael D. Gutierrez

Alliance Catholic Credit Union broke ground last Friday morning, May 29, on a new branch in Southwest Detroit, drawing employees, business owners, clergy and elected officials to the former Comerica Bank property next to St. Gabriel Parish and directly across from a Chase Bank location.

The branch will rise on the other side of Livernois Ave. from Alliance Catholic's current location at W. Vernor and Junction. Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer Dan Davidson, who opened the ceremony by thanking the neighborhood for a decade of partnership that led the credit union to the site, called the two sites pillars that

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2026 Skillman Visionary Awards Celebrate Education Changemakers

The Skillman Foundation recently announced the 2026 Skillman Visionary Awards recipients, honoring 10 leaders who are helping transform public education across Detroit and Michigan.

The Skillman Visionary Awards recognize individuals who are shaping the education system and how young people experience it. At their core, the awards reflect a simple idea: lasting change happens when people across classrooms, communities, and policy spaces work together to build an education system that better supports the well-being and potential of all students.

Each recipient receives a $50,000 unrestricted, no-strings-attached award, recognizing their impact and investing in the future they are building. Together, they reflect the education ecosystem, from educators and organizers to policy influencers, business leaders, and media voices.

Recipients of the 2026 Skillman Visionary Awards.

The 2026 cohort includes:

- Alice Thompson, CEO, BFDI Educational Services, Inc.: For decades of leadership combining frontline youth services with policy advocacy to better respond to young people's needs and aspirations.
- Alycia Meriweather, Deputy Superintendent, Detroit Public Schools Community District: For connecting students, community partnerships, and public policy to remove barriers to learning across Detroit.
- Armen Hratchian, Executive Director, Teach For America Detroit: For strengthening Michigan's educator pipeline and elevating teachers as leaders in policy and systems change.
- Curtis L. Lewis, Ph.D., Founder & President, Boldly Moving Education Ahead: For advancing culturally responsive education and creating more pathways for Black educators to enter and thrive in the profession.
- Imani Foster, Communications Lead, 482Forward: For elevating youth and community voice through education organizing and storytelling.
- Ines de Jesus, Community Leader & Education Advocate: For decades of leadership advancing bilingual education, education for all, and community voice.
- Mike Jandernoa, Founder & Chairman, 42 North Partners: For leveraging business and philanthropic leadership to help ensure every Michigan school is a launch pad of opportunity.
- Dr. Omar Hakim, Vice President of Education, Detroit Public TV: For expanding access to learning through public media and fostering connections between schools and communities.
- Dr. Seydi Sarr, Founder & Executive Director, ABISA: For supporting community advocacy that supports access to education for immigrant

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ACCU Breaks Ground on New Southwest Detroit Branch

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bookend the neighborhood and tie its halves together.

The building will run about 4,500 square feet, with roughly 1,150 set aside for a community room, more than triple the cramped space at Vernor and Junction where staff have squeezed in hundreds of meetings over five years. The new room adds a kitchen and dedicated bathrooms. It will host the financial literacy classes on credit, checking and loans that the credit union treats as core to its work.

Rendering from the westside of the building including the mural

On the building's exterior, the credit union plans a mural of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Davidson said the credit union wanted it to honor both its Catholic identity and the culture of the neighborhood. When the city saw the concept, he said, it didn't bat an eye.

Service will run in Spanish at the counter and at the machines outside. About 22% of the credit union's roughly 150 employees are bilingual, and every branch keeps Spanish-speaking staff on hand. The site will carry a walk-up ATM and a drive-through interactive teller machine, where credit union members can press a button and reach a live employee by video, both with a Spanish-language option.

Alliance Catholic aims to open the branch about a year from now, pending city approval, with Michigan design-build firm The CASE Group handling construction. The roughly $3.5 million project covers the building, signage, equipment and furniture, and will add six or seven jobs to bring the two Southwest Detroit branches to around 14 employees. Davidson wants it fully staffed from the day it opens.

Davidson said what matters most about the building is what it leaves out: No bulletproof glass, no metal detectors, no man-trap entrances. Branch staff who work the counter pushed for that open layout over added security. They told him members should feel like human beings when they walk in. The credit union also offers ITIN lending, which lets residents borrow using a taxpayer ID number instead of a Social Security Number, a group most banks turn away. "We believe in your story, so we're going to take a chance on you," Davidson said.

Eduardo Vargas, owner of Tacos Wuey Detroit, already banks with Alliance and drove over for the groundbreaking. He moved his accounts there on the recommendation of other business owners, drawn to a smaller institution rooted in the neighborhood.

"As a Latina, as a Mexicana, it's such an honor to see the leadership acknowledge our community," said Sylvia Lozoya, who arrived in Southwest Detroit as a child in 1978 and now serves as the credit union's vice president of human resources and community relations. Members own the credit union, she added, so profits return to them as lower rates and openings for first-time homebuyers instead of going elsewhere.

José Miguel Rodríguez, who grew up in Southwest Detroit, works as a member representative, said of the bank, "We position ourselves as a potential bridge and not a barrier." He counts roughly 18,000 residents in the dense stretch from Woodmere Cemetery to Livernois, families he wants to reach before they hit a financial wall.

Gabriela Santiago-Romero, District 6 Councilmember

Councilwoman Gabriela Santiago-Romero left the Mackinac Policy Conference to attend, calling herself an immigrant who grew up poor and watched traditional banks leave her family worse off. The no-interest loans Alliance gave families after last year's water main break flooded basements across Southwest Detroit stayed with her. "When I learned that Alliance provided families with 0% loans to help repair flooded basements, that was huge," Santiago-Romero said.

Alliance Catholic carries the Juntos Avanzamos designation, a national mark for credit unions serving Hispanic and immigrant members, and its branches lean on financial education, scholarships through the credit union's foundation and lending for homes and small businesses.

Daniel Aguado, the Deputy Consul of Mexico, pointed to the credit union's presence in Southwest Detroit over the last decade as reason to expect it would follow through. "This is a local branch with local roots," Aguado said.

Michael D. Gutierrez is the Digital Content Manager for EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. He is a screenwriter and filmmaker with a decade of experience in the television and film industry, contributing to projects including THE HOLDOVERS and LETHAL WEAPON on Fox. He is an active member of the Writers Guild of America-West and its Latino Writers Committee.

ACCU inicia la construcción de una nueva sucursal en Southwest Detroit

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ejecutivo y director de operaciones de la cooperativa, agradeció el apoyo que la comunidad les ha brindado durante los últimos diez años.

Davidson dijo que las dos sucursales ayudarán a fortalecer la conexión entre distintas partes de Southwest Detroit y a acercar los servicios financieros a más residentes del área.

El nuevo edificio tendrá aproximadamente 4,500 pies cuadrados. Uno de sus espacios más importantes será un salón comunitario de alrededor de 1,150 pies cuadrados, mucho más amplio que el que tienen actualmente.

Según Davidson, durante los últimos cinco años han realizado cientos de reuniones, talleres y eventos comunitarios en un espacio que ya no da abasto para la demanda. El nuevo salón contará con cocina y baños propios y servirá para ofrecer clases de educación financiera sobre crédito, cuentas bancarias, préstamos y otros temas relacionados con el manejo del dinero.

El edificio también contará con un mural de la Virgen de Guadalupe en su exterior.

"Queríamos que reflejara tanto nuestra identidad católica como la cultura de esta comunidad", explicó Davidson.

Los servicios estarán disponibles en español tanto dentro de la sucursal como en los equipos de autoservicio. Actualmente, alrededor del 22% de los cerca de 150 empleados de Alliance Catholic son bilingües, y todas sus sucursales cuentan con personal que habla español.

La nueva ubicación tendrá un cajero automático exterior y un cajero interactivo en el carril de autoservicio, donde los socios podrán conectarse por videollamada con un empleado en vivo para recibir ayuda. Ambos servicios incluirán la opción de atención en español.

La cooperativa espera abrir la nueva sucursal dentro de aproximadamente un año, una vez que reciba las autorizaciones necesarias por parte de la ciudad. La construcción estará a cargo de The CASE Group, una empresa de diseño y construcción con sede en Michigan.

El proyecto representa una inversión de aproximadamente 3.5 millones de dólares e incluye el edificio, el mobiliario, el equipo y la señalización. Además, se crearán entre seis y siete nuevos empleos, lo que elevará a cerca de 14 el número total de trabajadores entre las dos sucursales de Alliance Catholic en Southwest Detroit.

Pero para Davidson, una de las cosas más importantes del nuevo edificio es lo que no tendrá.

"No habrá vidrio antibalas, detectores de metales ni barreras que hagan sentir a la gente incómoda cuando entra", dijo.

Explicó que fueron los propios empleados quienes impulsaron la idea de un espacio más abierto y acogedor.

"Querían que las personas se sintieran bienvenidas desde el momento en que cruzan la puerta."

Alliance Catholic también ofrece préstamos utilizando un ITIN, lo que permite a personas que no cuentan con un número de Seguro Social acceder a financiamiento usando su Número de Identificación Personal del Contribuyente. Davidson señaló que muchas instituciones financieras no ofrecen este tipo de opciones.

L to R: Msgr. Chuck Kosanke: Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit and Most Holy Trinity Parish, Fr. John Robinson: SOLT Family of Parishes

"Creemos en tu historia y queremos darte una oportunidad", afirmó.

Entre los asistentes estuvo Eduardo Vargas, propietario de Tacos Wuey Detroit, quien ya es socio de Alliance Catholic. Vargas comentó que decidió llevar sus cuentas a la cooperativa después de recibir recomendaciones de otros empresarios de la comunidad.

"Como latina, como mexicana, es un orgullo ver que el liderazgo reconoce a nuestra comunidad", dijo Sylvia Lozoya, vicepresidenta de Recursos Humanos y Relaciones Comunitarias de Alliance Catholic.

Lozoya llegó a Southwest Detroit siendo niña en 1978 y destacó que, a diferencia de los bancos tradicionales, los socios son los dueños de la cooperativa.

"Las ganancias regresan a los socios en forma de mejores tasas de interés, oportunidades para comprar una casa por primera vez y otros beneficios para las familias de nuestra comunidad", explicó.

José Miguel Rodríguez, quien creció en Southwest Detroit y actualmente trabaja como asesor de socios, dijo que la filosofía de la institución es sencilla.

"Queremos ser un puente, no una barrera", afirmó.

Rodríguez señaló que entre Woodmere y Livernois viven cerca de 18,000 personas, muchas de ellas familias trabajadoras que pueden beneficiarse de opciones financieras que no siempre encuentran en otros lugares.

La concejal Gabriela Santiago-Romero también asistió al evento, dejando por unas horas la Conferencia de Políticas Públicas de Mackinac para acompañar el anuncio.

Santiago-Romero recordó haber crecido en una familia inmigrante de bajos recursos y dijo que muchas veces los bancos tradicionales no atendían las necesidades de familias como la suya.

Por eso destacó los préstamos al 0% de interés que Alliance Catholic ofreció a familias afectadas por las inundaciones provocadas por la ruptura de una tubería principal de agua el año pasado.

"Cuando me enteré de que Alliance ayudó a las familias con préstamos sin intereses para reparar sus sótanos inundados, eso fue algo enorme para nuestra comunidad", dijo.

Alliance Catholic cuenta con la certificación Juntos Avanzamos, un reconocimiento nacional para cooperativas de crédito que sirven a comunidades hispanas e inmigrantes. Además de ofrecer servicios financieros, la institución impulsa programas de educación financiera, becas y préstamos para vivienda y pequeños negocios.

Daniel Aguado, cónsul adjunto de México en Detroit, dijo que la presencia de Alliance Catholic en Southwest Detroit durante la última década demuestra su compromiso con la comunidad.

"Esta es una institución local con raíces en esta comunidad", afirmó Aguado.

Michael D. Gutiérrez es el gerente de contenido digital de EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. Es guionista y cineasta con una década de experiencia en la industria cinematográfica y televisiva, y ha contribuido a proyectos como THE HOLDOVERS y LETHAL WEAPON en Fox. Es miembro activo del Writers Guild of America-West y de su Comité de Escritores Latinos.

From Metal to Monarchs:

Detroit Sculptor Juan Martinez Creates Art Meant to Be Experienced

Detroit artist is transforming public spaces into celebrations of migration, community and belonging. By Andrés Ospina

On a recent afternoon inside a westside industrial arts studio, sparks flew as sculptor Juan Martinez worked on sections of a giant monarch butterfly. Resting on fabrication tables, the steel structure was still taking shape, piece by piece, as it moved closer to becoming a public bench for Southwest Detroit.

The 11-foot-tall, 12-foot-wide butterfly bench, commissioned for Southwest Detroit's Congress of Communities, is more than public art. For Martinez, a Detroit sculptor and welder, it is a celebration of migration and belonging.

Inspired by monarch butterflies that travel thousands of miles between Mexico and North America each year, the bench reflects journeys familiar to many immigrant families.

Sparks fly as sculptor Juan Martinez fabricates a monarch butterfly bench celebrating migration and belonging. Photo by Andrés Ospina

"In this time when migrants are so targeted, I thought it was important to celebrate them," Martinez said.

The project represents the latest chapter in a career that has blended art, engineering and community engagement for more than three decades.

A Colombian Artist's Journey

Born in Bogotá, Colombia, Martinez immigrated to the United States with his family at age four and grew up in New Orleans. Art became part of his identity early in life. "My father and I used to draw together all the time," Martinez recalled. "I was kind of known as the kid who was an artist."

A major influence arrived when Martinez was 14 and met Colombian-born metal artist Luis Colmenares in New Orleans. He apprenticed under Colmenares throughout high school, learning welding, metal fabrication and sculpture techniques that became the foundation of his career.

Colmenares, known in the New Orleans arts community for large-scale metal works, was Martinez's first mentor and one of his most important influences.

Martinez later trained in Santa Clara del Cobre, Mexico, a town renowned for its copper-working traditions. Rather than pursuing a traditional university art education, he developed his skills through apprenticeships and hands-on work with blacksmiths, sculptors and fabricators across the country.

Those experiences helped shape the blend of artistry and engineering that defines his work today.

Finding a Home in Detroit

Martinez first arrived in Detroit in 2010 through Detroit Summer, the youth organization founded by legendary activist Grace Lee Boggs. Working alongside young people, he helped create "These Walls Can Talk", a community arts project that documented grassroots organizations throughout Detroit through interviews, photography and large-scale public artwork.

The experience transformed his perception of the city. "We got to speak with lots of different organizations," Martinez said. "I was very impressed with how much people were doing in Detroit."

The project introduced him to a network of artists, activists and community organizations working to strengthen neighborhoods from the ground up. Martinez soon decided to make Detroit his permanent home.

"I love being in Detroit," he said. "I own a house here. I want to stay in Detroit."

Art You Can Ride, Touch and Experience

Martinez is perhaps best known for a series of bicycle-powered sculptures known as "Mechanical Animals," creations that combine metalworking, engineering and public interaction.

The project began in 2016 when author Dave Eggers commissioned Martinez to build a set of animal-shaped pedicabs for 826 Michigan, a nonprofit organization.

The resulting sculptures included a life-size bison, a giant pangolin (an armored mammal) and later a rhinoceros. Unlike traditional sculptures displayed behind barriers, the Mechanical Animals were designed to be ridden.

The sculptures became favorites at community events throughout Detroit. Martinez believes much of their appeal comes from their interactivity. "Instead of not being able to touch the art, put your body in the art and ride it down the street," he said.

That philosophy extends throughout his work. Whether designing a bicycle-powered sculpture or a public bench, Martinez wants people to engage directly with what he creates.

Detroit audiences have embraced that approach. "One of the things that I love about Detroit is that people are very unafraid to show joy here," Martinez said. "If they're excited about something, they're going to let you know."

Building Monuments to Migration

While the Mechanical Animals helped establish Martinez's public profile, his current focus is permanent public art.

The butterfly bench for Congress of Communities was a deliberate choice; it represents the first in what he hopes will become a larger series of migration-themed installations throughout Detroit.

The sculpture will be installed outside the nonprofit's office near the corner of Junction and St. Hedwig. "It's a permanent monument that's celebrating our migrant communities. A lot of times animals can have symbolic meanings that reflect what's going on with humans," he said.

Plans for the installation include a QR code that will allow visitors to hear anonymous migration stories. "I think it's so beautiful to incorporate people's actual stories of migration as part of this."

The bison reflects Martinez's interest in creating art that people can ride, touch and experience. Photo by Juan Martinez

Juan Martinez works on a public art installation commissioned by Congress of Communities in Southwest Detroit. Photo by Andrés Ospina

Looking Ahead

His ambitions extend well beyond a single butterfly bench. He is pursuing funding for additional sculptures inspired by birds that travel between Latin America and Michigan. One concept would place visitors inside the nest of a giant migratory bird, with its wings forming a protective shelter overhead.

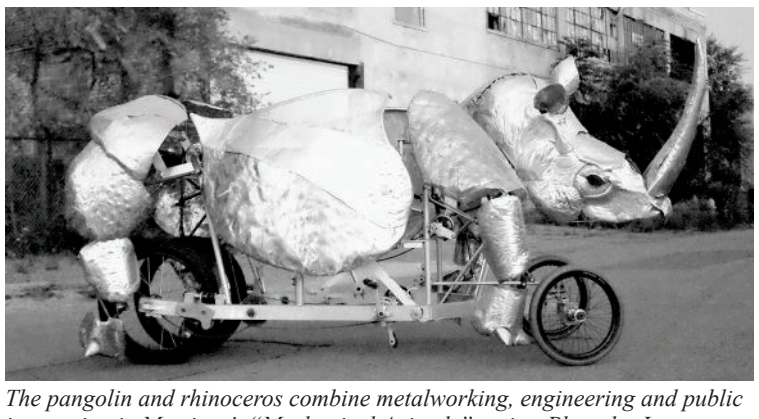
He also hopes to expand his Mechanical Animals series with a giant Guacamaya or scarlet macaw, whose wings would flap as it moves through city streets carrying passengers.

For Martinez, animals have long served as both artistic subjects and symbols. Since childhood, he has been fascinated by their forms, behaviors and ability to communicate deeper human stories.

Through butterflies, birds and larger-than-life creatures made of steel, Martinez hopes to create public spaces that celebrate migration, inspire wonder and invite participation.

In a city shaped by generations of newcomers, his sculptures serve as reminders that movement, adaptation and community are not only natural forces but also part of Detroit's story.

Animal-inspired sculptures have been a recurring theme throughout Juan Martinez's career as a sculptor and metal artist. Photo by Andrés Ospina



The pangolin and rhinoceros combine metalworking, engineering and public interaction in Martinez's "Mechanical Animals" series. Photo by Juan Martinez

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Andrés Ospina is a Detroit-based freelance journalist and business consultant covering business, entrepreneurship and economic development. Originally from Colombia, he holds a double major in Communications and Journalism and an MBA from the University of Exeter (UK). His work connects the dots between his experience supporting small businesses, startups and organizations and his background in journalism, bringing a practitioner's perspective to the stories he tells.

2026 Skillman Visionary Awards Celebrate Education Changemakers

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students and families.

- Venessa Keesler, President & CEO, Launch Michigan: For bringing a diverse array of education stakeholders around shared strategies to strengthen Michigan schools.

"Across Detroit and Michigan, there are people doing the hard, often unseen work of strengthening public education. They are building trust, opening doors, and creating new possibilities for young people every day," said Angelique Power, President & CEO of The Skillman Foundation. "The Skillman Visionary Awards recognize that leadership and invest in it, because when the people closest to students have a voice in shaping what comes next, real change begins to take root."

Together, the Skillman Visionary Awardees represent a span of generations, roles, and perspectives, demonstrating that strengthening public education requires collaboration across sectors and experiences. They are working across communities and sectors to improve how the education system supports students every day.

"Transformation does not come from one place or one perspective. It grows when people come together with a shared belief in young people and a willingness to do the work differently," added Power. "What we see in this year's recipients is a collective force, people building something stronger, more responsive, and more human for the next generation."

By recognizing and connecting these leaders, the Skillman Visionary Awards help build common ground and momentum for education systems change across Michigan, demonstrating that progress is not only possible but already underway.

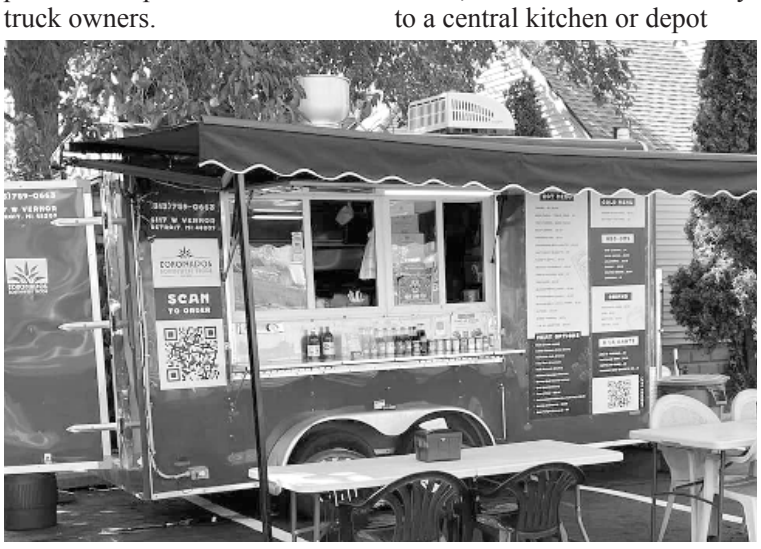
For more information and updates, please visit www.skillmanvisionary.org

The Skillman Visionary Awards

Proposed Food Truck Ordinance Offers a Hope for Permanence

By Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

The City of Detroit is introducing a new food truck ordinance, an act that could recodify existing standards on temporary permits and also introduce a new, permanent option for food truck owners.



Coronados Southwest Tacos, pictured on facebook.

"The ability to operate under a building permit will provide food truck operators with greater business stability and predictability, reducing administrative costs and uncertainties associated with temporary permits," said Christopher Gulock, Deputy Director at the City of Detroit Planning Commission.

According to the city website, Detroit offers two types of temporary permits. Food trucks must either qualify as A) Mobile Food Establishment or B) Special Transitory Food Unit. Both of these must be renewed yearly. To qualify as a mobile food establishment, Act 29 of 2000 states that a food truck, food trailer, or boat must return daily to a central kitchen or depot where it is cleaned, supplied with fresh ingredients, and serviced. On the other hand, a Special Transitory Food Unit is not required to return to its home base every day.

"We want to add it as a permanent land use. We really need to add it to regulate them properly," Gulock said

Part of the current regulations allow food trucks in residential areas only for permitted special events. A checklist can be found on the website for the City of Detroit. Chapter 50 of the 2019 Detroit City Code is the city's official Zoning Ordinance. Gulock said that other than special events, he would not allow resident zones or downtown near Campus Martius to be zoned for food trucks. Zone M4 (Intensive Industrial District) and zone M5 Special Industrial District) would not be zoned for food trucks.

Apart from zoning and an update on types of permits, the new ordinance would tackle food truck pods. How many food trucks allowed in a pod would be dictated by the size of the lot to determine safe capacity.

"It wouldn't be like the wild west. A site plan review is required," Gulock said.

While this can all seem overwhelming, Gulock stated that there will be a city-wide mailing soon which city officials are currently working on. He hopes that in July or August, there will be a public hearing at the City Planning Commission, followed by a second hearing at City Council in the fall. If passed, the ordinance will be followed by an education campaign.

Gulock stressed another important addition. Building an accessory structure such as a small gazebo or restrooms nearby would be allowed under the new ordinance, offering permanence where none existed before for food trucks in Detroit.

Tacos el Caballo in Southwest Detroit, pictured in an online review.

While city officials say the ordinance would provide greater stability for food truck operators, questions remain about how the new regulations could affect nearby businesses in terms of competition.

Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a Latina freelance writer living in metro Detroit. She is a regular contributor to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News and a member of Planet Detroit's Neighborhood Reporting Lab.

El Parian in Southwest Detroit, pictured on Facebook.

Food Trucks In Detroit

- The proposed ordinance would allow food trucks to obtain a building permit to operate on privately owned property in Detroit's commercial corridors.
- This is a shift from the current policy, which restricts food trucks to temporary licenses only.

Food Trucks In Detroit

- The ability to operate under a building permit will provide food truck operators with greater business stability and predictability, reducing administrative costs and uncertainties associated with temporary permits.
- With long-term security, food truck owners will likely be more inclined to invest in their business.

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Guest Opinion:

Detroit's Master Plan of Policies 2.0
Why Should Southwest Detroit be Interested and/or Concerned?

By Rogelio Landin

It has been my honor and privilege to have been selected to serve on the Master Plan Advisory, 2024/2026. The Advisory was charged with revisiting and updating the original 2009 Plan. For purposes of context and perspective, I believe in providing some historical reference. A lot of work went into the '09 plan. It identified 17 areas of focus providing the framework for driving the city forward for the next twenty years.

For all intents and purposes, the Plan essentially became obsolete 12 months later when Dan Gilbert moved, then Quicken, now Rocket Mortgage to Downtown, sparking a fifteen-year, $7.5 billion series of acquisitions. Add to that investment, the nearly $1 billion for Little Caesar's Arena in 2014 followed by Phase 2 District Detroit to develop the surrounding area at $1.5 Billion for a total of $10 Billion.

Let's us not overlook the $5 billion Canadian investment in constructing the Gordie Howe international crossing and the exponential bi-lateral economic impact it represents to our community, city, state and country. We can't overlook the billion dollars each in developing the Ford Motor Michigan Central renovation and the new Water Square Apartment/Hotel complex, along with the $200 million each for the U of M Innovation and Opportunity Center taking shape on Grand River with the coming opening of the COSM event venue across from Campus Martius.

Doing this quick math, all totaled, these investments represent over $15 billion in projects all located in District 6, Southwest Detroit, the home of Detroit's Hispanic community. These are investments in us, in our community. Our vitality and diversity are primary reasons they chose to build the new Detroit City FC AlumniFi Field soccer stadium in our community.

I am proud to have voluntarily represented our community by election, appointment and/or simply to contribute my experience by participating in/on the related Neighborhood Advisory Council's (NAC) per the Community Benefits Ordinance for a total of nearly $20 billion of economic development in District 6 and Southwest Detroit. All of this has been accomplished while working through and in the aftermath of the largest municipal bankruptcy in history.

The original Master Plan was designed to be fluid, a living document, open to additions, deletions and modifications. However, Detroit took on an entirely unforeseen set of financial challenges that were never anticipated, never mind included in the Plan. So, we find ourselves attempting to update our status and reset our compass for the next twenty years. What's the reality of that objective?

We've just invested two years of people's time representing a diverse cross section of citizens and communities to achieve an inclusive consensus for what our way forward will look like. The formal process has concluded. The next six months will involve the formulation of the Plan document for release by year's end. We just revised a twenty-year plan, fifteen years in, that was technically obsolete after the first year with no mention of what should happen in the next fifteen years.

Fast forward to today: The next twenty years; five city, state and federal election cycles. The document we produce will be obsolete before it's printed. Making it a living document fell short of its intended purpose. My recommendation to all concerned will be to make this process permanent, cycling members every four years with every new administration. I recommend Detroit take a look at Charlotte-Mecklinburg for a model as to how we might emulate their process for staying ahead of development plans by updating every two years for the next five years as a growth management strategy.

An important annual event that took place this past week was the Mackinac Policy Conference hosted/sponsored by the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce. I invite you to visit the Chamber's website at www.detroitchamber.com and watch those sessions that may be of interest.

Southwest Detroit will need to exert our position of importance to our city and region given our strategic geopolitical positioning as America's gateway on the northern border. The Gordie Howe International Bridge is now the means by which we unite three countries and two Continents into one seamless hemisphere. Three quick facts:

1) the #2 Land Border crossing by trade volume,

2) $21 billion in exports to Canada (2nd most by states) and

3) $16.6 billion in exports to Mexico (3rd most by states).

With the opening of the Gordie Howe, we now have the infrastructure to become number One. There is so much more to share on this topic, but neither time nor space permits at the moment.

Several quick observations; the primary focus at Mackinac was on Education and Workforce Development. The two areas that our community excels in and their importance to the future of our state's financial health in attracting investment. Yet, what you will notice conspicuously by our absence, is any inclusion of Hispanics in these policy dialogues. Now is the time to assert ourselves as a significant part of a comprehensive solution to the challenges we face in building the future.

Rogelio Landin is most renowned nationally for leading LULAC in the precedent setting successful filing of an Amicus in the Bradley v. Milliken II (1976-1978) desegregation case. Winning a favorable ruling in this case served to protect and preserve Bilingual education and the designation of minority status as included in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This case has had generational national and historical implications for the education of our children and continues to provide for the protection of Hispanic civil rights.

Poverty Elimination is a Growth Strategy
Mayor Sheffield sends bold message to Business & Political Leaders on Mackinac Island

MACKINAC ISLAND, MI - Mayor Mary Sheffield sent a bold and unconventional message during her first address at the Detroit Regional Chamber Policy Conference on Thursday, May 29. Rather than simply highlight the city's many successes, such as reduced crime, growing population and budget surpluses, she issued a call to action with her new mantra: "Poverty Elimination is a Growth Strategy."

During her 30-minute speech, the Mayor made her case that the only sustainable economic recovery for Detroit and the region is one that is built on a foundation of flourishing residents, rather than just traditional economic development.

As evidence, Mayor Sheffield pointed to the city's latest credit rating increases from Moody's (A3) and Standard & Poors (BBB+). Although the city has made tremendous progress in raising its ratings with 12 consecutive years with upgrades, she asked the rating agencies why they were not higher.

Their response was eye-opening: The reason the city's credit rating isn't on par with other municipalities with similar financial practices, balanced budgets and surpluses is lower household incomes.

That is validation of the Mayor's strategies since taking office for investing in people, including launching RxKids in Detroit, which already has delivered more than $4.5 million to families with new babies in Detroit and committing to pay all full-time city employees a living wage of at least $44,615 per year.

Sheffield also spoke of investing in the city's youth through programs like Grow Detroit's Young talent and other efforts led by her new office of Education and Youth Affairs, as well as investing in small businesses through programs like the Legacy Business project, which provides grants to companies that have operated in Detroit for at least 30 years.

The Mayor also challenged those in the audience, including business and political leaders, to join her in her efforts to invest in people, which would lead to a virtuous cycle of financial stability that then supports businesses

and makes the city, region and state stronger, citing her long held belief that "people need businesses and businesses need people."

Ultimately, Mayor Sheffield said she sees it as her responsibility to buck tradition and use new and innovative approaches.

"I was not elected to maintain the status quo. I was put in office for Detroit to Rise Higher, and poverty elimination is one of the most powerful economic development tools in our toolbox," Mayor Sheffield said.

The Mayor's full address can be watched at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLmI-uOvKqZg .

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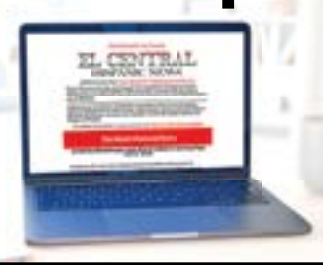


EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Three New Developments to Bring Nearly 200 Units of Deeply Affordable, Mixed-income Housing to Corktown

Renderings provided by DesignWorks Architecture

Mayor Mary Sheffield joined development partners, residents and community leaders this past Monday, June 1 to celebrate the continued transformation of Detroit's historic Corktown neighborhood through the construction of three major mixed-income housing developments: Bagley Townhomes & Flats, West of 10th Apartments, and Trumbull Apartments.

Together, the three developments will bring 188 new residential housing units to Corktown, including more than 150 affordable homes supported through the City by a portion of Detroit's $35 million federal Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant and broader neighborhood revitalization strategy.

Fifth Third Bank (formerly Comerica Bank) and Citizens Bank are also providing funding for the developments. These phases are part of the ongoing redevelopment of the former Clement Kern Gardens site and reflect the City's commitment to ensuring longtime residents can continue to live in one of Detroit's fastest-growing neighborhoods.

"Corktown is growing as fast as any neighborhood in the city, which is a good thing, but it also means more rent pressures for longtime residents," said Mayor Sheffield. "That's why we have made it a priority to invest heavily in new and more affordable housing so working families and seniors in Corktown can continue to live here and benefit from that progress."

"Corktown is not only Detroit's oldest neighborhood, but one of the most vibrant," said Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero. "As it continues to see more investment, it's critical that we make sure it remains affordable, too. These new housing units will help keep Corktown accessible to Detroiters of all ages, incomes, and familial makeup."

Located just west of downtown Detroit, Corktown has long served as a gateway community for generations of immigrants and working-class families. Originally settled by Irish immigrants in the mid-1800s, the neighborhood became known for its close-knit residential blocks, historic row houses and strong community identity. In recent years, Corktown has experienced significant redevelopment activity, driven by public and private investment surrounding Michigan Central, Roosevelt Park and the broader Southwest Detroit corridor.

"Corktown has long been one of Detroit's most vibrant and historic neighborhoods," said Jerry Krueger, President of American Community Developers, Inc., the developer of the site. "We're thrilled to partner with the City to provide new housing options for everyone."

The City of Detroit was awarded a $35 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation (CNI) grant awarded in May 2021 (and supplemented in 2023) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD.) The Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, led by the City of Detroit's Housing & Revitalization and Planning and Development Departments in partnership with residents and community stakeholders, is helping ensure that growth benefits residents of all incomes through new housing, neighborhood amenities, and community investment, especially for existing residents.

The developments also advance the vision outlined in the Greater Corktown Framework Plan, a community-driven planning effort that established a long-term roadmap for growth in Corktown and surrounding neighborhoods. The housing developments announced today align with the framework's goals of creating a more connected, equitable and vibrant neighborhood anchored by affordable housing, activated public spaces and pedestrian-oriented development.

"MSHDA is proud to invest in historic Corktown and the creation of affordable homes where Detroiters want to live, work and play," said Amy Hovey, MSHDA Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director. "With a 119,000unit housing shortage statewide, these developments represent the kind of smart, communityrooted growth we need to expand Michigan's supply of quality housing."

"As Detroit continues to grow, preserving and expanding affordable housing in neighborhoods like Corktown is critical," said Julie Schneider, Director of Detroit's Housing & Revitalization Department. "These projects ensure seniors, families and longtime Detroiters can remain part of this community's future while benefiting from the new investment and opportunity taking place around them."

All three developments are being led by American Community Developers, Inc. (ACD), one of the nation's largest affordable housing developers and operators. The projects collectively represent nearly $84 million in total investment and are part of the larger Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan designed to create a more inclusive, connected and vibrant Greater Corktown community. The redeveloped of the Clement Kern Gardens site will include outdoor play space for families and the reconnected 10th Street between Bagley and Labrosse. The re-established street grid will connect to a larger initiative led by the City to provide pedestrian and bike access to the riverfront from the neighborhood.

Bagley Townhomes & Flats on 10th

Bagley Townhomes & Flats on 10th, located at 1563 Bagley Street, is the first redevelopment phase at the former Clement Kern Gardens site and includes 54 housing units across four new buildings. The project includes townhomes and apartment-style units, with 44 affordable homes and 10 market-rate units.

Located within walking distance of Michigan Central, Roosevelt Park and neighborhood retail corridors, the development is designed to strengthen Corktown's character while ensuring housing opportunities remain accessible for Detroit residents.

West of 10th Apartments

West of 10th Apartments, located at 1601 Bagley along a reconnected 10th Street, is the second phase of redevelopment on the Clement Kern Gardens site and will create 46 new one-bedroom apartments designed specifically for seniors aged 55 and older. Forty of the units will be affordable and six will be market-rate.

Trumbull Apartments

Trumbull Apartments, located at 1501 Bagley, is a four-story development that will create 88 new residential units, including 72 affordable homes and 16 market-rate units. The building includes studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments serving residents at a range of income levels from 30% to 80% of Area Median Income (AMI).

Deadline Approaching:

Eligible Wayne County Property Owners Must File to Claim Surplus Foreclosure Proceeds by July 1

DETROIT – Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree is reminding resident and property owners whose properties were foreclosed in March 2026 that they may be eligible to claim surplus proceeds if their property sells for more than the minimum bid amount at upcoming auctions in September and October.

"We encourage people whose property was foreclosed in March 2026 to file a claim for surplus proceeds by the July 1, 2026," said Treasurer Sabree. "If your property was foreclosed in March 2026 and sells in the upcoming auctions for more than the minimum bid amount, you may be eligible to claim any remaining, surplus proceeds from that sale."

Under Michigan law (MCL 211.78t), property owners or those holding a meaningful equity interest (such as a mortgagee or lienholder) at the time of foreclosure must submit a notarized Notice of Intent form by July 1, 2026, to begin the claims process.

Claimants must download the Notice of Intent form from the "Claims and Auction" page at www.waynecountymi.gov/Treasurer/Claims-Auctions, complete all application and property details, and have the form notarized. The completed form must be hand-delivered or sent via certified mail to the Treasurer's Office before the deadline.

Property owners who file a claim by July 1, 2026, will receive notification from the Treasurer's office by January 31, 2027, regarding any available surplus.

Because foreclosure and surplus-proceeds laws are complex, individuals seeking guidance are encouraged to contact the State Bar of Michigan's Legal Referral Center at lrs.michbar.org or (800) 968-0738.

"Surplus Proceeds" are any monies remaining from the auction sale of foreclosed property, after back taxes and sales costs have been paid.

"Our office is committed to working with Wayne County resident and property owners to help people keep their property whenever possible, and we have taxpayer assistance programs to help people struggling to pay their property taxes," said Treasurer Sabree.

"However, in the event that a property is foreclosed and sold at auction to pay back taxes, we want to make sure that eligible property owners receive any surplus proceeds from the sale of their property -- but they must file a claim by July 1, 2026."

CLAIMS PROCESS – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the 2026 Auction Proceeds Claims Process?

If your property was foreclosed in March 2026, you may be owed money from the auction sale. This is called remaining proceeds—the extra money left after your taxes and fees were paid. Under Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 211.78t, this money is not sent automatically—you have to apply to get it.

Who is eligible to file a claim for remaining proceeds?

You may be entitled to any remaining proceeds from a foreclosure sale if you owned or had an ownership interest in a property in Wayne County, Michigan, that was foreclosed in 2026 and may be sold at auction. "Remaining proceeds" are proceeds from the auction sale left over, if any, after the total amount due to the foreclosing governmental unit (including all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the sale) is paid.

How do I Participate?

To be eligible to receive any remaining sale proceeds, you must submit a Notice of Intent to Claim Interest in Foreclosure Sales Proceeds (Form 5743) no later than July 1, 2026. Scan the QR code to access the form.

How do I Submit the Notice of Intent form?

The Completed and **NOTARIZED** forms must be sent by certified United States Postal Service mail, return receipt requested or hand delivered no later than July 1, 2026 to:
Wayne County Treasurer: 400 Monroe, 5th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226

Where Can I Learn More About the Process?

To learn more about the claims process, please visit the Wayne County Treasurer's Office website and click on the "Claims & Auction page". The full claims process is also outlined in Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 211.78t. Scan to view the law:

What are next steps after filing the Notice of the Intent form?

You will receive a Notice to Claimant to File Motion by January 30, 2027. This notice will include:

- Whether there are funds available (remaining proceeds)
- Whether other parties have filed claims
- Instructions to file a motion with the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court
- Your case number, assigned judge, and court contact information

You will then need to file a motion with the court to complete your claim.
Motion form: https://shorturl.at/99N4z or scan the qr code:

Questions? Visit **WayneCountyMI.gov/Treasurer** or email: **taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov**

If you lost your property to tax foreclosure in 2026:

You may be entitled to claim remaining proceeds from the sale associated with the parcel that exceeds the amount owed for taxes, interest and fees.

DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM: **JULY 1, 2026**

1. **FILL OUT THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM WITH THE FOLLOWING INFO:** APPLICATION INFORMATION, PROPERTY INFORMATION, AND INTEREST IN PROPERTY (E.G. MORTGAGE AND LIEN HOLDERS).
2. **NOTARIZE THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM**
3. **SUBMIT THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM TO THE WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE VIA CERTIFIED MAIL OR IN PERSON:** 400 MONROE ST, DETROIT, MI 48226

You can reach out to the Michigan Legal Services for assitance to file a claim. Call 313-964-4130 or visit milegalservices.org for more information.

Your completed, notarized form must be hand-delivered or sent through certified mail to the Wayne County Treasurer's Office located at 400 Monroe, Detroit MI 48226 on the 5th floor no later than July 1, 2026.

Visit WayneCountyMI.gov/Treasurer and click on **"Claims & Auctions"** to download the form.

CLAIMS FORM

You can also contact the Wayne County Treasurer's Office by calling 313-224-5990 or by emailing TaxInfo@WayneCountyMI.gov

De la oficina del Tesorero del Condado de Wayne, Eric R. Sabree

PUEDE AYUDARLO CON EL PROCESO DE ASISTENCIA CON SUCESIONES

¿Se enfrenta a una ejecución hipotecaria y necesita ayuda para iniciar un proceso de sucesiones en el Tribunal de Sucesiones del Condado de Wayne porque una propiedad está a nombre de un familiar fallecido?

COMUNÍQUESE CON UNO DE NUESTROS SOCIOS COMUNITARIOS:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-964-4130
MILegalServices.org

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-725-4560
UCHCDetroit.org

Lakeshore Legal Aid: 888-783-8190
LakeshoreLegalAid.org

www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com
313-224-5990

¡Estamos aquí para ayudarle!

Detroit Grand

Story provided by Detroit Grand Prix, photos provided by Adam J. Dewey/ EL CENTRAL photographer, unless otherwise noted

DETROIT (Sunday, May 31, 2026) – Four-time NTT INDYCAR SERIES champion Alex Palou prevailed in a full-contact race filled with various tire strategies, winning the Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix presented by Lear on Sunday for his fourth victory in eight races this season.

Pole sitter Palou drove his No. 10 HRC Chip Ganassi Racing Honda to a 3.0584-second victory over the No. 27 Sam's Club Honda of Andretti Global's Kyle Kirkwood. It was the 23rd victory of Palou's career in 106 starts, a remarkable strike rate of 21.7 percent, and he has won 12 of the last 25 races (48 percent win rate) dating to the start of the 2025 season.

"It feels like the first time, honestly" Palou said. "It was a tough one, a very tough one. But the team did an incredible job once again with the strategy. The pit stops were incredible. Incredible run, incredible start of the year, but it was tough."

The victory extended Palou's championship lead to 62 points over Kirkwood, more than a race's worth of margin. The Spaniard is aiming for an INDYCAR SERIES record-tying fourth straight title.

Arrow McLaren teammates Pato O'Ward and Christian Lundgaard finished fourth and fifth in the No. 5 and No. 7 Chevrolet-powered cars, respectively, at General Motors' home event.

Palou led 71 of the 100 laps, but this wasn't a stroll down Easy Street. He took the lead for good on Lap 69 when Kirkwood pitted from the lead for the last time and stayed out front on restarts on Laps 72, 76, 83 and 93 after full-course yellows bunched the field.

The move to the front was paved a few laps earlier when strategist Barry Wanser and Palou decided to make their final pit stop at the end of Lap 63, switching from the faster but less durable Firestone Firehawk alternate tire to the primary tire. Wanser saw a variety of jousts for position unfolding on the tight, nine-turn, 1.645-mile street circuit and wisely didn't want Palou to get caught on track under caution and lose track position.

"We took a little bit of a gamble on tires there, being the only guy on reds (alternates) at the end," Kirkwood said. "It nearly paid off. It was so, so close. There were two untimely yellows.

"We almost covered Palou when we were on primes, which would have been phenomenal, and then we had that other yellow where I had him lined up. I was ready to make a dive on him, and, of course, (the yellow) comes out after I burned 10 seconds of overtake. From there, we just didn't really have another shot at it. I think I just used up my tires too much to make that one pass."

Palou kept the lead on the restart on Lap 83, but Kirkwood continued to push and forced Palou into a flat-spotting tire lockup on Lap 88. But Palou gathered himself and his car and started to pull away, building a lead of 1.8929 seconds by Lap 91.

But there was one more restart for Palou to manage after Rossi clipped the rear of the No. 18 BMax Honda driven by Romain Grosjean of Dale Coyne Racing and sent Grosjean into the outside wall approaching Turn 3 on Lap 91. That triggered the last of six full-course yellows, but Palou pulled away from Kirkwood and the field on the Lap 93 restart and was never threatened despite the 173 on-track passes today, a high for a street circuit this season.

"Being able to be up front was key," Palou said. "On the first stint, I started struggling and kind of put myself in a bad spot and lost two positions with Lundgaard and (Scott) McLaughlin. I lost us positions there, but the team made a great call to be safe with the yellow. It kind of worked out for us."

The next NTT INDYCAR SERIES race is the Bommarito Automotive Group 500 presented by Axalta and Valvoline on Sunday, June 7. Live coverage of the night race starts at 9 p.m. ET on FOX, FOX One and INDYCAR Radio powered by OnlyBulls.

WWII era planes fly above the Renaissance Center before the start of the Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic on May 30, 2026

The AO Racing Porsche 911 GT3 R (Drivers - N. Tandy and H. King, #77) speeds through a turn along the Detroit River in the GTD Pro Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic on May 30, 2026

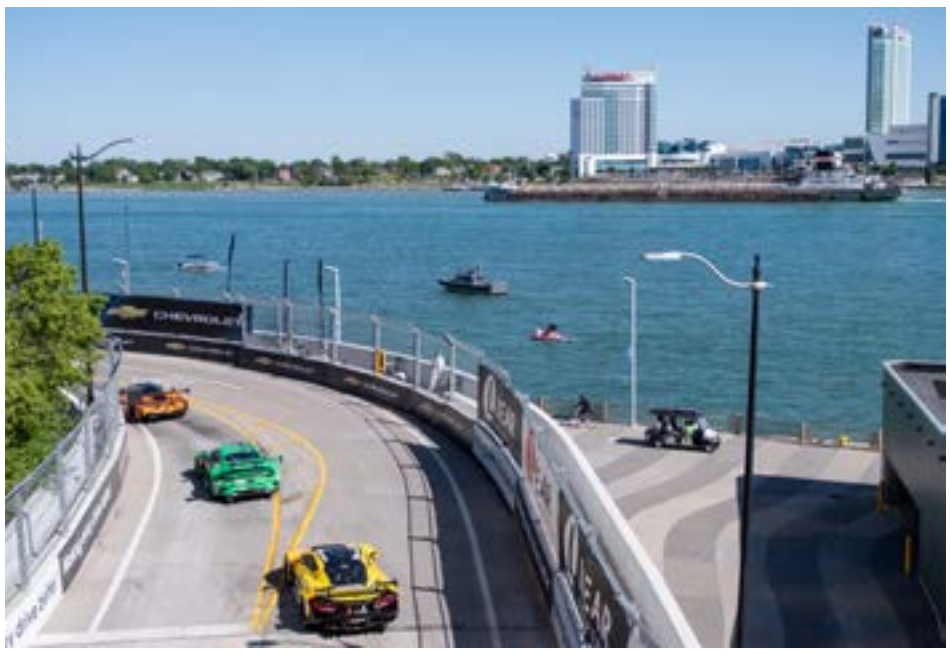
2026 Indy 500 winner Felix Rosenqvist throws out the ceremonial first pitch at the pre-game ceremony at the Detroit Tigers' game last Thursday, May 28. Photo by Dan Graschuck for EL CENTRAL. Photo enhanced by AI for clarity.

Alex Palou (Spain, #10) celebrates his first place victory at the 2026 Detroit Grand Prix alongside second place Kyle Kirkwood (USA, #27), and third place Graham Rahal (USA, #15) on top of the winners circle

Downtown Detroit ready for the Detroit Grand Prix

Prix Photo Highlights

The Acura Meyer Shank Racing Acura ARX-06 (Drivers - T. Blomqvist and C. Braun, #60) makes a turn onto Bates Street in the GTD Pro Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic on May 30, 2026



Racers weave through an S turn on Atwater Street along the Detroit River in the GTD Pro Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic on May 30, 2026

The Vasser Sullivan Racing Lexus RC F GT3 (Drivers - A. Telitz and C. Mostert, #15) makes a pit stop to change tires and remove a damaged front quarter panel late in the GTD Pro Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic

The JDC/Miller Motorsports Porsche 963 (Drivers - T. van der Helm and L. Heinrich, #5) heads into a turn in the GTD Pro Chevrolet Detroit Sports Car Classic

Kyffin Simpson (Cayman Islands, #8) gives chase to Caio Collet (Brazil, #4)

Christian Lundgaard (Denmark, #7) heads down Atwater Street along the Detroit River

Pit crew members work to dislodge debris stuck in the wheel of Lochie Hughes' (Australia, #26) Indy NXT race car

Niels Koolen (Netherlands, #10) wrecks into turn eight

Julianna Sanromán Wins Second Place in Art Exhibit

By Alonso del Arte

Painter Julianna Sanromán Rojas is on a roll. Just two weeks after the end of her exhibition as the Jack O. Summers Featured Artist at Detroit Artists Market, and a day after the closing of a group show she was in at the Mexicantown CDC, she was awarded second place in the new exhibit at Detroit Artists Market that opened last week.

And she also has artwork at the Bas Blue restaurant in a collaboration between Detroit Artists Market and Wasserman Projects. That exhibit will be up through the end of the month, closing almost the same day as the current show at Detroit Artists Market. Bas Blue is not far from Detroit Artists Market.

The current show at Detroit Artists Market was juried by Professor Gil Ashby from the College for Creative Studies (CCS). Ashby considered several sculptures, photographs and paintings for the exhibit.

Of those he chose for the exhibit, he further awarded Sanromán second place for an oil on canvas triptych spanning 94 inches by 40 inches. Mostly red in hue, the three panels show three women, pensive, in a very evocative composition.

Ashby awarded first place to Joyce Brienza for a mixed media collage and third place to Mandisa Smith for textile artwork.

Although Sanromán is not an alumna of the Cranbrook Academy of Art, she was the Jack O. Summers Featured Artist for the duration of the Cranbrook scholarship show at Detroit Artists Market that closed a couple of weeks ago.

Sanromán is in fact a CCS graduate, she earned her Bachelors of Fine Art there and her Masters of Fine Art at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Like some of the Cranbrook students she exhibited with, she has also been a recipient of awards during her own time as an art student. Her paintings intermingle precision and fuzziness, perhaps to evoke the vividness of some memories.

Detroit Artists Market is located on Woodward Avenue, very close to the Wayne State University campus. Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

In other art news, Andrew Pequeño has a solo show that opened at Louis Buhl last week. The Texas native uses the color blue in his paintings a lot more than Sanromán, and he generally goes for a mildly surreal effect. But his paintings do show, like Sanromán's, a touch of deliberate imprecision.

Sanromán at Detroit Artists Market back in April. Photo by Alonso del Arte

Alonso del Arte is the author of Java with TDD from the Beginning available at https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/1394711

Triptych by Julianna Sanromán Rojas now on display at Detroit Artists Market

Julianna Sanromán toma segundo lugar en competición

Por Alonso del Arte

Na' más dos semanas después de haber sido la Jack O. Summers Featured Artist en una exhibición en Detroit Artists Market, y un día después de cerrar una exhibición en la Mexicantown CDC, la pintora Julianna Sanromán Rojas ganó segundo lugar en la exhibición titulada Hot DAM en Detroit Artists Market.

También tiene pinturas en exhibición en el restaurante Bas Blue, parte de una colaboración entre Detroit Artists Market y Wasserman Projects. La exhibición en el restaurante continuará por el resto d'este mes, y la exhibición en Detroit Artists Market durará casi al mismo día. Bas Blue queda cerca de Detroit Artists Market.

Las 'sculturas, fotografías, pinturas y otras obras artísticas en la exhibición fueron seleccionadas por el Profesor Gil Ashby del College for Creative Studies (CCS). De lo que 'scogió pa' la exhibición, premió un tríptico de Sanromán con segundo lugar. En total, las tres partes del tríptico miden más o menos dos metros y medio por un metro. Ashby le dio primer lugar a Joyce Brienza por un collage y tercer lugar a Mandisa Smith por una obra en tela.

Aunque Sanromán no fue 'studiante en la Cranbrook Academy of Art, fue la Jack O. Summer Featured Artist durante la exhibición de becas pa' cuya institución en Detroit Artists Market que cerró el mes pasado. Sanromán atendió a CCS pa' su Bachelors of Fine Art y la Universidad de Michigan pa' su Masters of Fine Art.

Usted puede ver la exhibición de Detroit Artists Market en la galería en Woodward Avenue los martes a sábados de 11 a.m. a 6 p.m. Hay parqueo cerca, uno un lot' privado y otros son de Wayne State University. La QLine tiene una parada bien cerca.

Artist Julianna Sanromán Rojas (left) with Detroit Artists Market Director Miah Davis at the gallery back in April during the Cranbrook Art Academy scholarship show at Detroit Artists Market. Photo by Alonso del Arte

Detail of a painting by Sanromán that was on display at Detroit Artists Market

DCFC ‘s Road Woes Continue

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Patcando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Having finally picked up a win away from Keyworth Stadium in the Prinx Tires USL Cup against League One Forward Madison, Detroit City went into a crucial game at Charleston with hopes of ending a 14 month drought in the league. Unfortunately, the Battery didn’t see it that way. Two early goals in three minutes by the home team combined with some solid defending left DCFC frustrated on the road again.

Danny Dichio’s team didn’t create a lot of great opportunities again. The difference between his team’s performances at home and on the road could not be more stark. Without the vocal backing of the home crowd, this team looks more timid. They don’t push the game enough. There isn’t the same drive through midfield or tenacity when they try to press an opponent. Dichio has to figure out how to get this team going on the road.

DCFC has recorded two draws and four losses away from home. That feeble output contrasts with the perfect five wins from five home games. If DCFC somehow manages to win all 15 home games, they would likely make the playoffs. However, to succeed in the postseason, they will have to win at another team’s stadium.

Losing midfielder Maxi Rodriguez to another injury before halftime took what little impetus there was out of the attack. Ben Morris came on and could not get up to the speed of the game. He has looked several steps slower since his return from injury. If the rest of the creative players cannot figure out how to open defenses, Morris will have to pick up the pace or be bypassed by others.

Overall, the team remains defensively solid. It’s just that with the attack struggling away from home, they cannot afford any errors. Failing to mark Colton Swan during a corner kick and then allowing Swan time and space to pick out Langston Blackstock were the two errors. They were costly.

Fortunately, DCFC’s next two games are at the friendly confines of Keyworth Stadium. First, they play their second group match of the USL Cup against Lexington FC on Saturday night. In order to remain in contention, this is a must win. Given the demands of the competition, losing any of the four group matches virtually eliminates a team. Next week, on the eve of the World Cup, DCFC will host the El Paso Locomotive. The club gained some notoriety in recent weeks by signing Cristo Fernandez, better known as Dani Rojas on the hit television show Ted Lasso. He has yet to make his league debut, so perhaps Detroit will be in for a treat when the Locomotive come to Hamtramck.

USA starts World Cup prep with win

Now that Mauricio Pochettino has his final World Cup roster together, we will see what his $6 million annual salary produces. The team took some important steps during a 3-2 win over Senegal in front of over 57,000 fans in Charlotte.

The most important thing for the team is that Christian Pulisic finally scored a goal. He had not scored for any team since a late December strike for AC Milan. His goal for the USA, the second of a torrid opening half hour, was his first since 2024 in the national colors. The face of the national team had served notice of his return to form with a dazzling number of moves prior to the goal. That included a lovely exchange with Antonee Robinson which carved open the Senegalese back line. Pulisic slid the ball across for Sergino Dest to score the opener after just seven minutes.

Pulisic’s goal came from a full field move by the Americans. Alex Freeman, starting on the right of a back three, placed a delicate pass with the outside of his right foot between two defenders for Ricardo Pepi. Pepi pushed the ball to the back shoulder of a defender where Pulisic was sneaking in. Pulisic took the ball in stride around the goalkeeper and slotted it in to give the US a deserved 2-0 lead.

The Americans had played a superb opening half hour, showing increased mobility with and without the ball. They played with intensity and hunger. Pepi relished his first start in a long time. He showed some superb skill, dropping into midfield to get touches and circulate the ball. Gio Reyna started and played the first half. His overall influence was limited, but he showed that he can fit in to Pochettino’s scheme seamlessly.

After their less than stellar opening, the team that won the African Nations Cup on the field, began to play. Led by legendary forward Sadio Mane, the visitors finally showed up. Mane pulled a goal back before halftime thanks to a giveaway by Robinson that caught the back line off guard. Senegal quickly turned defense into attack and Mane eluded Mark McKenzie and Tim Ream to score past Matt Turner.

Pochettino made ten changes at halftime, leaving only Sebastien Berhalter from the starting eleven on the field. It took ten minutes for the new team to find their feet. By that time, Mane had struck again. He took advantage of some slow thinking by Miles Robinson and a weak attempt to charge out of goal by debutant Chris Brady. That equalizer kick-started the Americans.

Following that equalizer, the USA had the ball in the back of the net three times. The first two, one by Folarin Balogun and another from Malik Tillman, were ruled out by VAR. The officials ruled Balogun was offside when Tillman’s pass found him in acres of space in front of goal. Tillman’s came back due to a foul in the buildup by Balogun. Nevertheless, the team persisted and got their reward. Tim Weah burst forward on the right wing and found Balogun near the penalty spot. The Monaco forward made no mistake as the team’s French connection combined to give the USA the win.

While Pochettino didn’t completely tip his hand, the team looked far more effective in this game with a back three rather than the four-man defense that Portugal and Belgium had little trouble exposing during the March window. He may not have decided on his starting eleven for the World Cup game against Paraguay on June 12, but most of the key figures looked like they were in the right places. There will be key decisions such as who starts next to Tyler Adams in midfield and whether Pepi or Balogun plays from the start. The composition of the back three will depend on whether or not Chris Richards recovers from an ankle ligament injury in time to play. Dest and Weah are the top contenders right wing. Both had good outings against Senegal.

The USA will wrap up preparations against Germany in Chicago on Saturday afternoon. Soldier Field will be sold out for the final friendly. Expected starting goalkeeper Matt Freese as well as forward Haji Wright and midfielder Brendan Aaronson will be looking for some significant minutes after sitting out the Senegal game. After that, the pressure will build for six days. A home World Cup is a once in a lifetime event for a player. Every US player is aware of that. They have shown the ability to be competitive. Now, they have to deliver.

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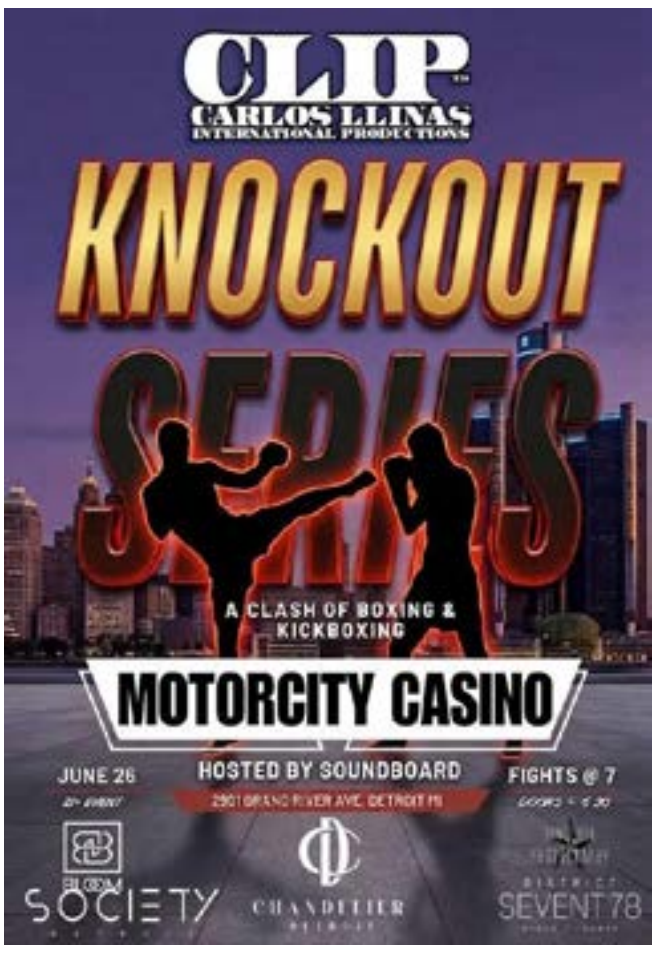

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

The Trump Dump:
What he always does when facing humiliating defeats is a guide to what he'll do now

By Robert Reich

What does Trump do when facing a humiliating defeat? He closes everything down. If that doesn't work, he dumps it entirely and criticizes the hell out of whoever's then in charge. Call it the Trump dump.

He did this in the 2020 election — refusing to accept defeat and then trying to close it all down by instigating an attack on the U.S. Capitol. When that didn't work, he spent the next four years blaming Biden for everything.

When performers scheduled to appear at the Kennedy Center cancelled in protest of Trump's taking over the Center and putting his name on it, Trump closed the Center, with the lame excuse that he was "renovating" it.

Then, Friday, after a federal court ordered him to reopen the Center and remove his name, he announced "I have no interest in continuing what could only be a hopeless journey into 'NEVER NEVER LAND," followed by: "The Kennedy Center will soon be closed, probably never to open again," and "the Kennedy Center will collapse, both structurally and financially."

A similar Trump dump occurred over the weekend after artists pulled out of his 250th anniversary concert series on the mall when they discovered that the series was a promotional vehicle for Trump. In response, he said he was cancelling the series and replacing it with a Trump rally.

Trump is pulling a nearly identical — and far more serious — Trump dump in Iran. In mid-April, rather than accept Iran's humiliating blockage of the Strait of Hormuz, he pretended he was in charge and he'd close the strait. So he ordered a naval blockade, which did nothing but maintain the status quo.

Last Friday, when Iran signaled it might be willing to reopen the strait on its own terms (by charging tolls), Trump once again acted as if he was in charge, announcing that he'd be making a "final determination" on a potential deal that "must see the strait reopened, and then Iran must work with the U.S. to have its highly enriched uranium DESTROYED."

Now that Iran is reportedly breaking off talks with the Trump administration and seeking "complete closure" of the Strait of Hormuz, because of Israel's attacks on Lebanon, we can expect an even larger Trump dump.

What might this one look like? One likelihood: Trump takes credit for brokering a shaky peace deal between Iran and Israel over Lebanon's Hezbollah, while blaming critics inside the U.S. for imperiling his peace talks with Iran. He announces he's ending the cease fire — which ended over the weekend anyway, with the U.S. military striking Iranian radar and drone sites near the Strait of Hormuz — and that "he's finished with negotiations!" He then claims he's done. He's destroyed Iran's military and killed off its old regime and warns that if Iran doesn't open the strait and give up its nuclear program he'll resume bombing. It's up to them.

In effect, he leaves the problem of reopening the strait to other countries more dependent on oil shipped through it, such as China, and the problem of taming Iran's nuclear ambitions to Israel. It's the final Trump dump.

We'll see.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Opinión de un Invitado:

El abandono de Trump:
Lo que siempre hace cuando enfrenta derrotas humillantes sirve de guía para lo que hará ahora

Por Robert Reich

¿Qué hace Trump cuando se enfrenta a una derrota humillante? Lo cierra todo. Si eso no funciona, lo abandona por completo y critica despiadadamente a quienquiera que esté a cargo en ese momento. Llamémoslo el «abandono de Trump».

Hizo esto en las elecciones de 2020: se negó a aceptar la derrota y luego intentó paralizarlo todo instigando un ataque contra el Capitolio de los Estados Unidos. Cuando eso no funcionó, se pasó los siguientes cuatro años culpando a Biden de todo.

Cuando los artistas programados para actuar en el Centro Kennedy cancelaron sus presentaciones en protesta por el hecho de que Trump se apropiara del Centro y le pusiera su nombre, Trump cerró el recinto con la endeble excusa de que lo estaba «renovando».

Luego, el viernes, después de que un tribunal federal le ordenara reabrir el Centro y retirar su nombre, anunció: «No tengo ningún interés en continuar lo que solo podría ser un viaje sin esperanza hacia el "PAÍS DE NUNCA JAMÁS"», seguido de: «El Centro Kennedy cerrará pronto, probablemente para no volver a abrir jamás», y «el Centro Kennedy colapsará, tanto estructural como financieramente».

Un «abandono de Trump» similar ocurrió durante el fin de semana, después de que varios artistas se retiraran de su serie de conciertos conmemorativos del 250.º aniversario, celebrada en el National Mall, al descubrir que dicha serie era, en realidad, un vehículo promocional para el propio Trump. En respuesta, anunció que cancelaba la serie y la sustituiría por un mitin de Trump.

Trump está llevando a cabo un «abandono de Trump» casi idéntico —y mucho más grave— en relación con Irán. A mediados de abril, en lugar de aceptar el humillante bloqueo del estrecho de Ormuz impuesto por Irán, fingió tener el control y amenazó con cerrar él mismo el estrecho. Así pues, ordenó un bloqueo naval que no logró otra cosa que mantener el *statu quo*.

El viernes pasado, cuando Irán dio a entender que podría estar dispuesto a reabrir el estrecho bajo sus propias condiciones (mediante el cobro de peajes), Trump volvió a actuar como si tuviera el control, anunciando que tomaría una «decisión final» sobre un posible acuerdo que «debe garantizar la reapertura del estrecho y, posteriormente, exigir que Irán colabore con los EE. UU. para que su uranio altamente enriquecido sea DESTRUIDO». Ahora que, según se informa, Irán está rompiendo las conversaciones con la administración Trump y buscando el «cierre total» del estrecho de Ormuz —debido a los ataques de Israel contra el Líbano—, podemos esperar una nueva y aún mayor «descarga» de Trump.

¿Qué aspecto podría tener esta? Una posibilidad: Trump se atribuye el mérito de haber negociado un frágil acuerdo de paz entre Irán e Israel en relación con Hezbolá en el Líbano, al tiempo que culpa a sus críticos dentro de Estados Unidos de poner en peligro sus conversaciones de paz con Irán. Anuncia que pone fin al alto el fuego —el cual, de todos modos, ya había terminado durante el fin de semana, con el ejército estadounidense atacando emplazamientos iraníes de radares y drones cerca del estrecho de Ormuz— y declara que «¡ha terminado con las negociaciones!». A continuación, afirma que ha concluido su labor: ha destruido el ejército de Irán y ha acabado con su antiguo régimen, y advierte que, si Irán no abre el estrecho y renuncia a su programa nuclear, reanudará los bombardeos. La decisión está en sus manos.

En la práctica, deja el problema de la reapertura del estrecho en manos de otros países más dependientes del petróleo que se transporta a través de él —como China—, y el problema de frenar las ambiciones nucleares de Irán, en manos de Israel. Es la descarga final de Trump.

Ya veremos.

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Special World's Cultures
Sacatepequez, Guatemala

Sacatepequez, Guatemala

Sacatepéquez is a Guatemalan department totally packed with folklore, vibrant colors, warm people, and non-stop festivals. It's not just super rich in old-school traditions and ancient culture—its everyday vibe today overflows with energy and life, giving you plenty of awesome reasons to pack a bag, grab a map, and visit as soon as possible. While the whole area has its own charm, one of its absolute most popular, dynamic, and visited towns is San Antonio de Aguas Calientes. In fact, if you happen to visit San Antonio during June, you're in for an amazing cultural treat because the entire town completely comes alive with music, traditional dances, and huge celebrations all month long.

The whole region is blessed with breathtaking natural beauty that will totally blow you away. You've got these massive mountain ranges, deep green valleys, and rugged sierras that create a stunning visual contrast against the cozy, low-rise, and picturesque buildings in the local towns. Honestly, it's a photographer or traveler's absolute dream.

Speaking of unforgettable views, one of the most iconic sights in the entire region is actually located just outside San Antonio, in the neighboring, legendary city of Antigua Guatemala: the famous Santa Catalina Arch. This historic monument sits on a charming little street, connecting both sides of the road. Even though it's a classic, rustic piece of colonial architecture, it acts like a perfect, natural photo frame for the massive

Water Volcano peaking out majestically in the background.

When it comes to sacred architecture, the traditional temples in towns like San Antonio de Aguas Calientes faithfully keep that classic historic design, with thick walls, baroque details, and old-school facades that make you feel like you stepped back in time. On the other hand, the department

is a perfect mix of natural beauty and modern artistic twists. For instance, they recently opened the super famous Giant Hand viewpoint at the well-known Hobbitenango ecological park, tucked away high up in the Vuelta Grande mountains. This fun attraction gives the area a much more modern, fresh, interactive, and trendy feel, and the panoramic views from up there are absolutely insane.

On top of that, the cultural wealth here is next-level, especially when it comes to their deep-rooted textile tradition. Local artisans and weavers in San Antonio de Aguas Calientes create handmade pieces with mind-blowing technical complexity, using the famous backstrap loom. They don't just make traditional huipiles packed with history and symbolism; they also weave long bolts of fabric used to craft other essential clothing items, like beautiful skirts. These textiles don't just keep a colorful heritage alive; they also feature nature vibes like bright flowers, cool geometric stripes, and delicate openwork embroidery made with tons of patience. You can really feel how proud locals are of their craft when you see these textiles showcased in gorgeous local museums or up for grabs at the huge, colorful markets and bustling bazaars.

To top off this whole trip, San Antonio de Aguas Calientes has a hidden natural gem: the Quilisimate seasonal lagoon. This place is a gorgeous water mirror that fills up completely during the rainy season, transforming the landscape into a beautiful lake bursting with wildlife and offering stunning views of the surrounding volcanoes. But here is the crazy, fascinating, and magical part—once those rainy months are over, the water completely vanishes from the surface until the next year. It's definitely one of those magical, mind-boggling details that make Sacatepéquez a truly unique place in the world.

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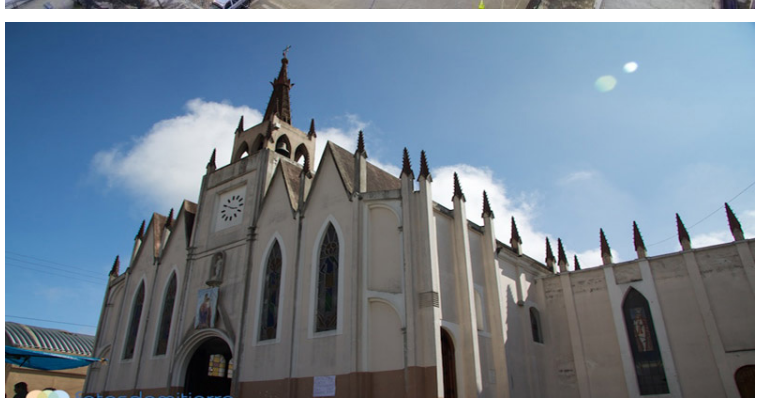
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Sacatepéquez, Guatemala

Sacatepéquez es un departamento totalmente lleno de folclor, colores vibrantes, calidez humana y festividades sin fin. No solo es una región súper rica en tradiciones antiguas y cultura ancestral, sino que también su vida cotidiana actual rebosa de energía y alegría, dándote muchísimas razones de peso para armar la maleta, agarrar el mapa y visitarlo cuanto antes. Aunque todo el territorio tiene su propio encanto, sus municipios y ciudades más populares, dinámicos y visitados son, sin duda, la emblemática Antigua Guatemala y el colorido pueblo de San Antonio de Aguas Calientes. De hecho, si tienes la enorme suerte de pasar por San Antonio durante el mes de junio, te tocará vivir una experiencia cultural increíble, ya que el pueblo entero se llena de música, danzas tradicionales y hermosas celebraciones patronales durante todo el mes.

Toda la zona geográfica está bendecida con una belleza natural impresionante que te deja sin aliento. El paisaje está repleto de imponentes sierras, valles verdes y cadenas montañosas que regalan un contraste visual espectacular con las construcciones tradicionales, bajas y pintorescas de los poblados. Es, honestamente, el sueño de cualquier fotógrafo o viajero. Una de las postales más memorables e icónicas de la región es la vista del famoso arco de Santa Catalina, ubicado en Antigua Guatemala. Este monumento histórico se encuentra en una pequeña y encantadora calle, conectando de forma directa ambos lados de la vía. A pesar de ser una obra de arquitectura clásica y



rústica del periodo colonial, funciona como un efecto visual perfecto que encuadra de manera natural al imponente Volcán de Agua que se asoma majestuoso al fondo de la calle.

En cuanto a su arquitectura sacra, los templos coloniales de Sacatepéquez conservan fielmente ese diseño clásico de la época hispánica, con paredes anchas, acabados barrocos y fachadas históricas que te hacen sentir como si hubieras retrocedido en el tiempo. Por otro lado, el departamento es una muestra perfecta de cómo la riqueza natural se puede combinar con toques artísticos modernos. Por ejemplo, hace poco se inauguró el famosísimo mirador de la Mano Gigante, ubicado en el conocido parque ecológico de Hobbitenango, justo en las alturas de las montañas de Vuelta Grande. Esta divertida atracción le da un aire mucho más moderno, fresco, interactivo y turístico a la región, y las vistas panorámicas desde las alturas son simplemente una locura.

Además, la riqueza cultural aquí es de otro nivel, especialmente por su fuerte y arraigada tradición textil. Los artesanos y tejedoras locales de San Antonio de Aguas Calientes elaboran piezas a mano con una complejidad técnica impresionante, utilizando el famoso telar de cintura. No solo confeccionan los tradicionales huipiles llenos de historia y simbolismo, sino también largas extensiones de tela que luego utilizan ingeniosamente para crear otras prendas típicas fundamentales, como las faldas o cortes. Estos textiles no solo conservan una colorida herencia, sino que también plasman la naturaleza del lugar a través de motivos florales, diseños lineales o rayas, y delicados deshilados hechos con paciencia. El orgullo por el arte textil de la región es evidente y se nota a leguas en las hermosas exhibiciones de los museos locales, así como en la enorme y colorida oferta de los bazares, mercados artesanales y tiendas de recuerdos.

Para cerrar con broche de oro toda esta travesía, San Antonio de Aguas Calientes cuenta con una joya de la naturaleza escondida: la laguna estacional de Quilisimate. Este lugar es un auténtico espejo de agua que se llena por completo durante el temporal de lluvias de invierno, transformando el paisaje en un lago hermoso y lleno de vida silvestre. Pero lo más curioso, fascinante y mágico de todo es que, una vez que terminan estos meses de lluvia, el agua se desvanece por completo de la superficie hasta el próximo año. Es, sin duda, uno de esos tantos detalles mágicos e inexplicables que hacen de Sacatepéquez un lugar verdaderamente único en el mundo.

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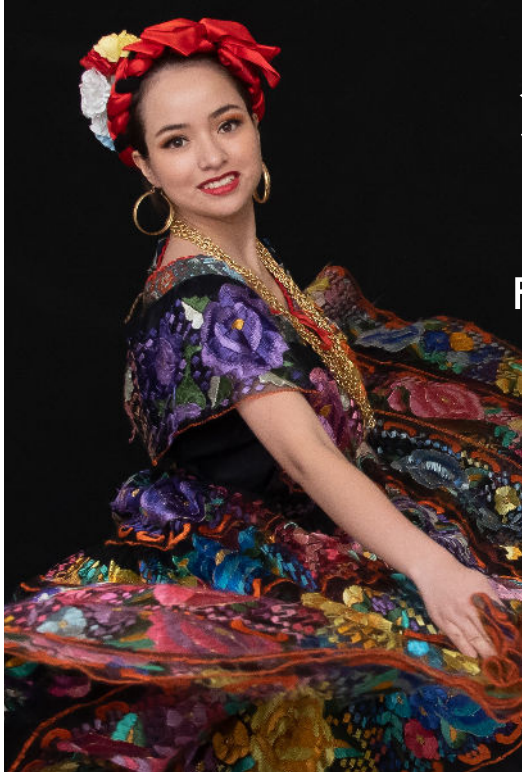

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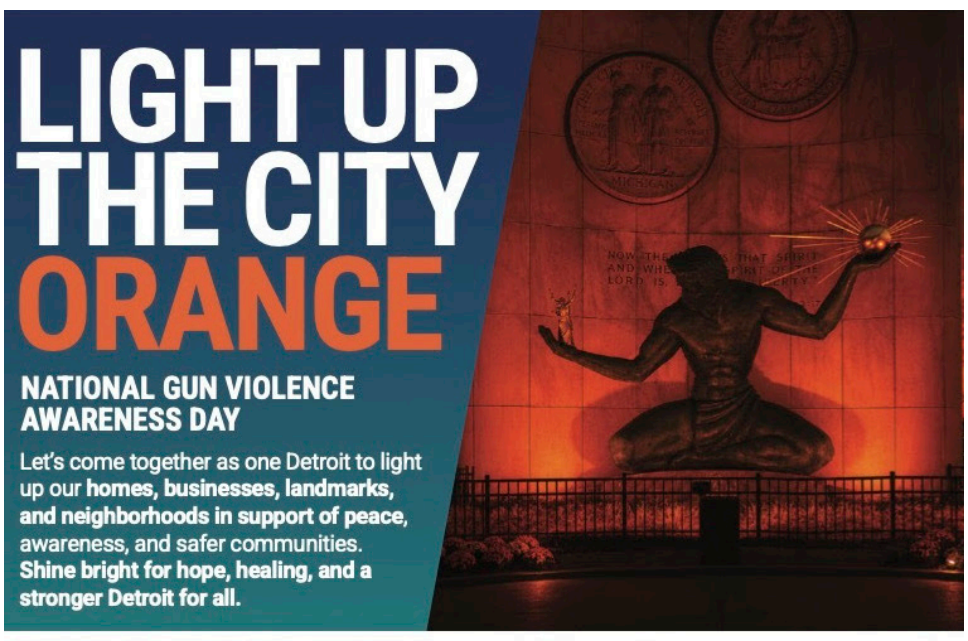
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